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Attorney's Docket No.: 301-069001 / C1-X0011-US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant : Hidetoshi Inoko et al.

Art Unit : 1645

APR 26 2002

Serial No. : 09/713,616

Examiner : Juliet C. Einsmann

Filed : November 15, 2000

Title : NOVEL POLYMORPHIC MICROSATELLITE MARKERS IN THE HUMAN
MHC CLASS II REGION

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Responsive to the action mailed February 13, 2002, applicants elect the invention of Group I (claims 1 to 4) drawn to oligonucleotide primers and kits. Pursuant to the species election requirement, applicants elect primers for amplification of microsatellite marker M2_4_9. Primers with SEQ ID NOS:1 and 2 are suitable for amplification of this microsatellite marker.

Applicants make this election with traverse. Applicants respectfully submit that all of the microsatellite markers described in the application are located in the human MHC class II region. Thus, the claimed inventions are closely related, and searching and examining these claims together would present no undue burden on the Examiner. Based on these remarks, applicants request that the Examiner reconsider the restriction requirement, recombine Groups I and II into a single group, and withdraw the requirement for a species election.

If the restriction requirement is maintained, applicants note for the record that they may choose to rejoin the Group II claims in this case once the Group I claims are deemed allowable over the art.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit

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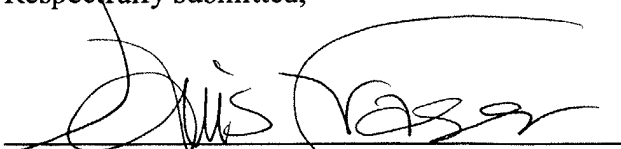
Attorney's Docket No.: 01-069001 / C1-X0011-US

Enclosed is a \$55 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 06501-069001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

 15, 2004


Janis K. Fraser, Ph.D., J.D.
Reg. No. 34,819

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02110-2804
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

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